In addition, 104 Akshay Urja Shops have been established all over the country for the sale and after sales services of renewable energy systems and devices.

Installation of solar water heating system

2810. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give solar water heating business in the country a major boost, through installation of 10 million sq. meter of solar collectors in the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) whether it is also projecting a major scale-up from the current installation in 1.5 million sq. meter;

(c) if so, whether the proposed installation plan would involve solar heaters in about 3.5 million homes and installations expected in industry and in commercial establishment like hotels, hospitals, guest houses; and

(d) whether Government propose to expand the renewable energy programmes through various financial and fiscal incentives and changes in building bye-laws?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) to (c) A total collector area of 1.5 million sq.m. has so far been installed in the country for solar water heating. The Sub-group on Renewables for Urban, Industrial & Comercial Applications of the Working Group on Non-conventional Energy Sources for the Eleven Five year Plan has recommended installation of 10 million sq.m. of collector area for solar water heating and other applications during the plan period. This includes 7 million sq.m. of solar collector area for domestic systems which are expected to provide hot water in around 3.5 million homes. Installations are also likely to come up in industry and in commercial establishments such as hotels, hospitals, hostels, guest houses etc.

(d) The programmes are proposed to be expanded through fiscal and financial incentives; other promotional measures such as mandatory

installation of solar water heating systems through amendment of building bye-laws; rebates in property tax or electricity bills; technology upgradation and support to training programmes, publicity and awareness campaign.

Power station of RVUN

2811. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for including both thermal power stations of Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam in the list of power stations identified for importing coal; and

(b) the reasons for not giving full linkage of Indian coal to both power stations of RVUN?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) In order to bridge the gap between demand and supply of coal from domestic sources, it was decided that power utilities would have to import around 13 Million Tonnes (MT) and 20 MT of coal during the 2005-06 and 2006-07 respectively. The thermal power stations were considered for import of coal on the basis of folowing criteria:

(i) Coastal Power Stations,

(ii) Stations where availability of coal is a constraint,

(iii) Stations situated at long distances from pit-head,

(iv) Stations which are traditional importers.

Kota and Suratgarh Super Thermal Power Stations, being, situated at long distance from the pit-head, were included for import of coal. There is less domestic production of coal as compared to the supply of domestic coal in the country. The linkages are given commensurate with the availability of domestic coal.